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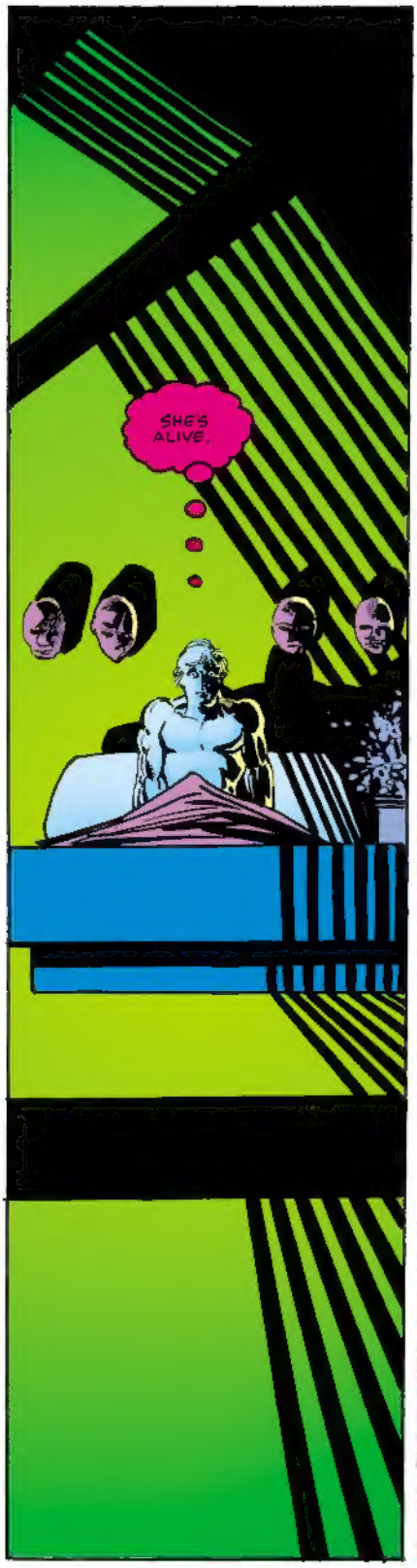
DAREDEVIL®

THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!

ELEKTRA

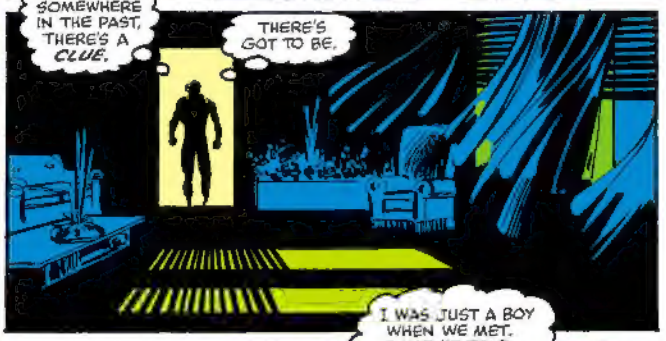
"For in that sleep of death what dreams may come..."

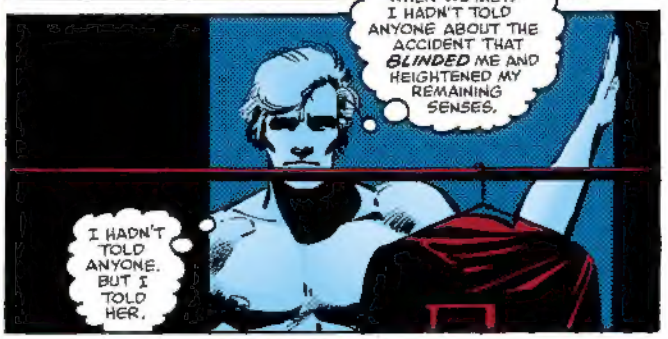
SHE'S ALIVE
FRANK MILLER STORY & ART \ KLAUS JANSON FINISHED ART & COLORS \ JOE ROSEN LETTERS \ JIM SHOOTER SUPERVISOR \ DENNY O'NEIL EDITOR


SHE'S ALIVE.

NO. THAT'S CRAZY.
ELEKTRA IS DEAD. SHE DIED IN MY ARMS.
I FELT HER LAST, FITFUL HEARTBEAT... SMELLED THE BLOOD AS IT FILLED HER LUNGS... HEARD HER FINAL DEATH RATTLE...

SHE'S DEAD.
SHE'S ALIVE.
I CAN FEEL IT. I KNOW IT.
GOT TO THINK. REMEMBER.


SOMEWHERE IN THE PAST, THERE'S A CLUE.
THERE'S GOT TO BE.

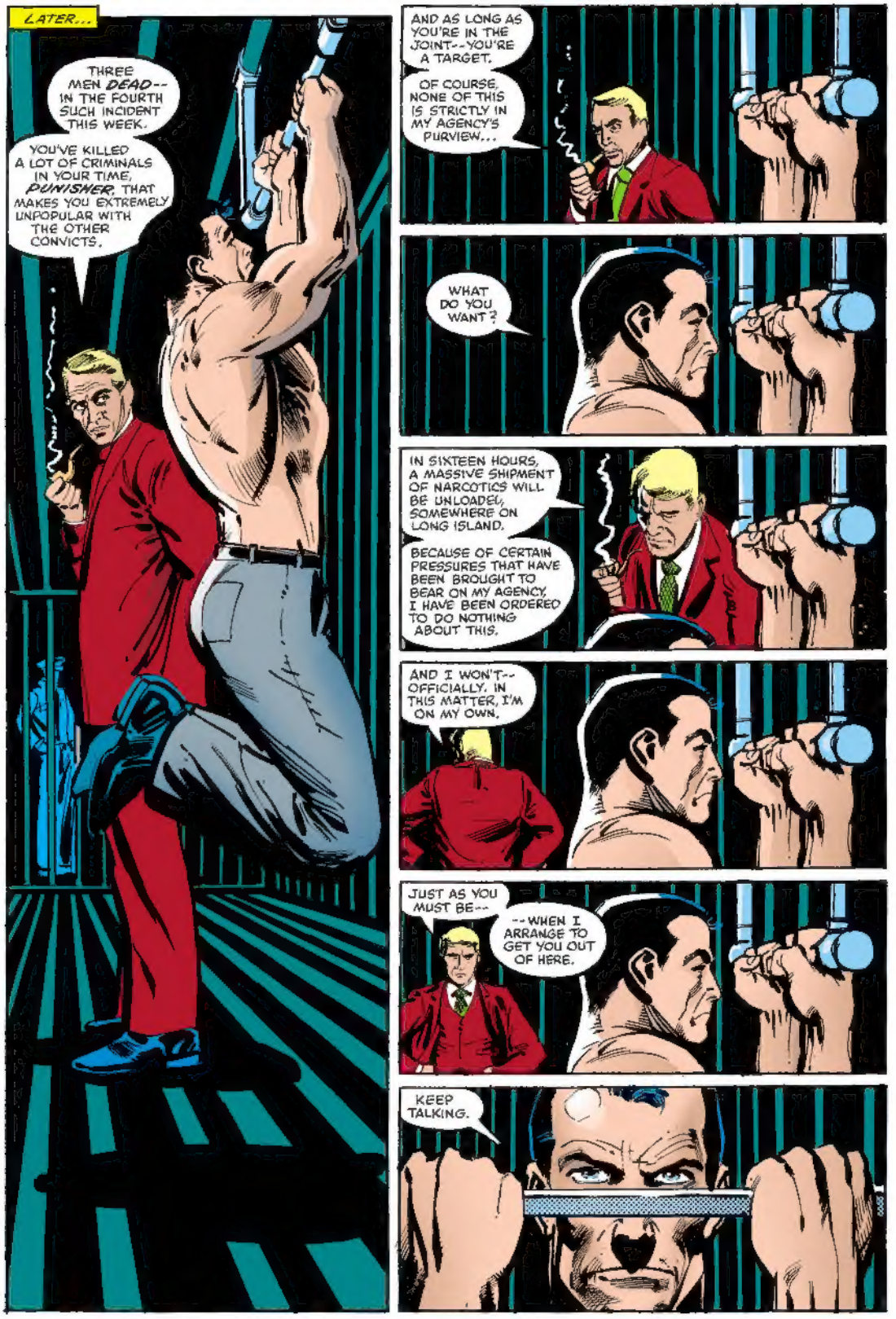

I WAS JUST A BOY WHEN WE MET. I HADN'T TOLD ANYONE ABOUT THE ACCIDENT THAT BLINDED ME AND HEIGHTENED MY REMAINING SENSES.
I HADN'T TOLD ANYONE. BUT I TOLD HER.

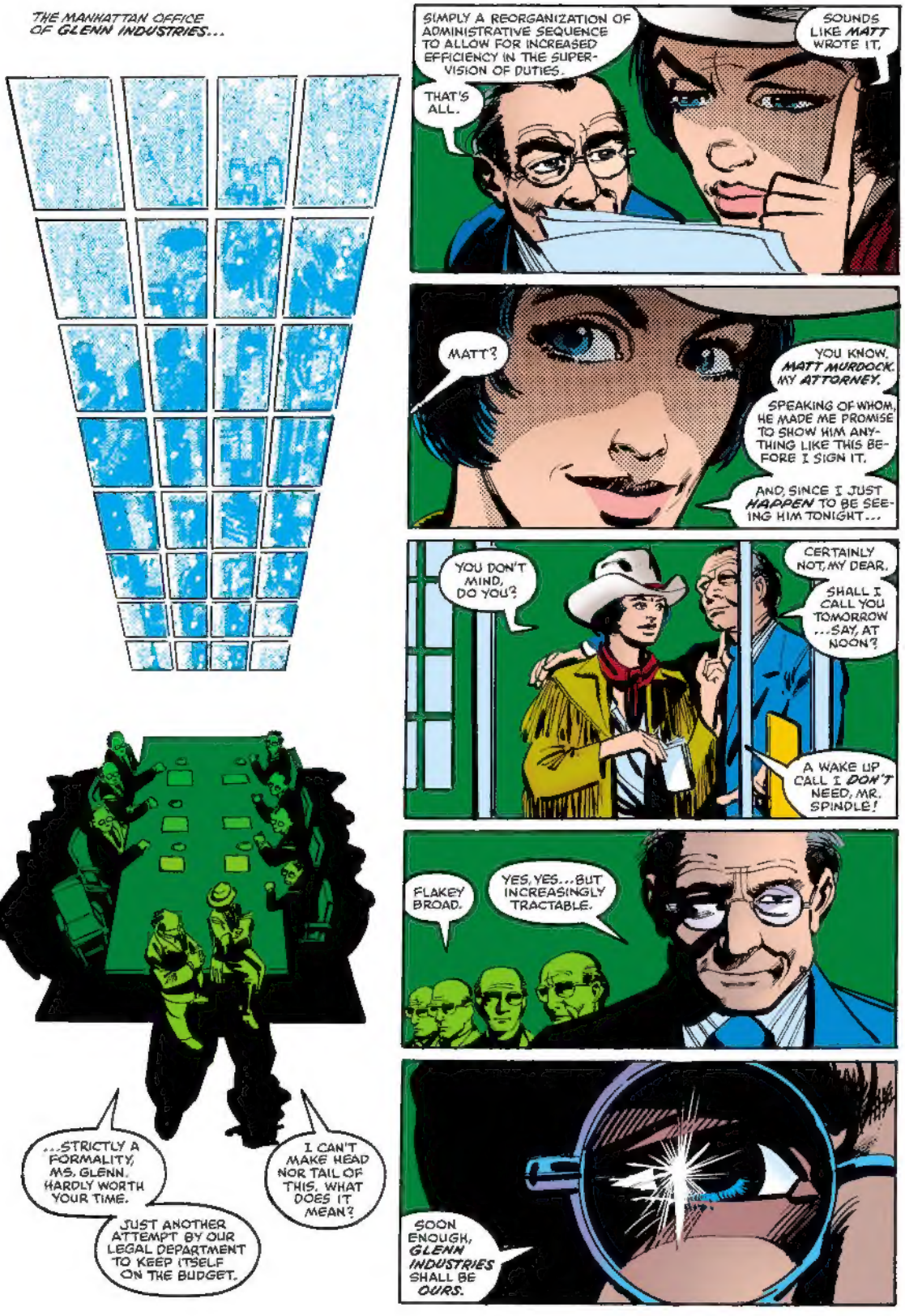
WE WERE CHILDREN, LOVING WITHOUT PAIN...
...WITHOUT DUTY...

HOW DID IT HAPPEN, ELEKTRA? WHAT BROUGHT US TO THIS?
WHAT MADE YOU HURT ME SO?
DID I FAIL YOU IN SOME WAY--
--OR WERE YOU POSSESSED BY SOME AWFUL INNER DEMON, THAT MADE YOU KILL, AND KILL....
YOU STUDIED WITH THE NINJA. YOU BECAME ONE OF THEM.
THEY TAUGHT YOU ALL THEIR DARK WAYS OF DEALING DEATH...
...DID THEY TEACH YOU WAYS OF FORESTALLING DEATH, AS WELL?
OR FAKING IT?
DID THEY?
SO MANY QUESTIONS. AND THEY ALL NEED ANSWERS.
YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE THEM TO ME.
I'M COMING FOR YOU, ELEKTRA.

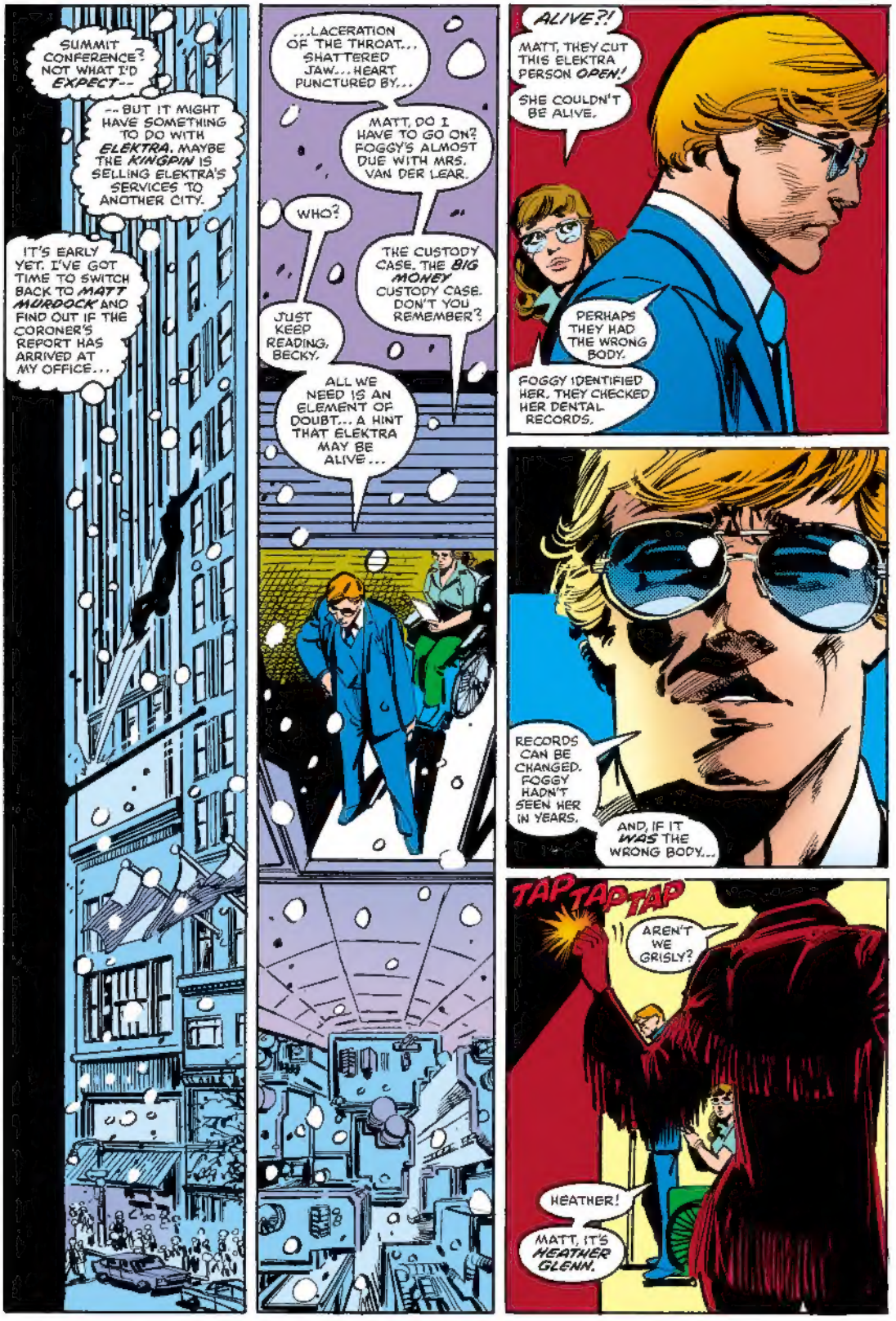
RYKER'S ISLAND PENITENTIARY...
DRY OFF REAL GOOD NOW.
DON'T WANNA CATCH COLD.
RECOGNIZE US, TALL MAN?
SURE.
YOU'RE THREE OF INJUN JOE'S BOYS.
UH-HUH.
AND INJUN JOE'S FLAT OUT IN THE INFIRMARY 'CUZ OF YOU.
HAPPY HE AIN'T.
HE WAS STUPID.
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

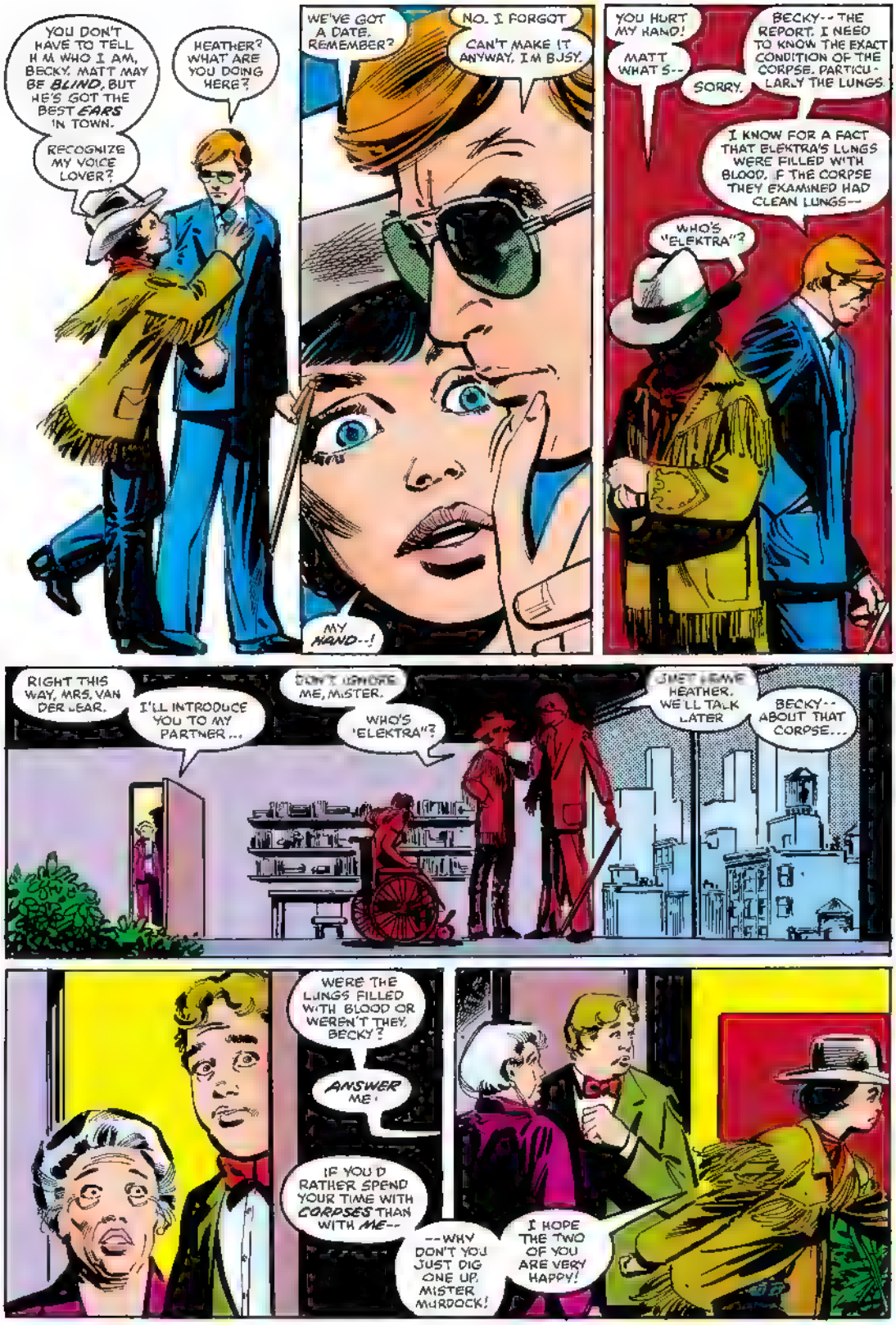
FAPP
KRAK
OWW!
I GOT HIM, JOCKO! I...
JOCKO--!
DON'T MATTER!
STILL GOT MY BLADE--


LATER...
THREE MEN DEAD-- IN THE FOURTH SUCH INCIDENT THIS WEEK.
YOU'VE KILLED A LOT OF CRIMINALS IN YOUR TIME, PUNISHER, THAT MAKES YOU EXTREMELY UNPOPULAR WITH THE OTHER CONVICTS.
AND AS LONG AS YOU'RE IN THE JOINT--YOU'RE A TARGET.
OF COURSE, NONE OF THIS IS STRICTLY IN MY AGENCY'S PURVIEW...
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
IN SIXTEEN HOURS, A MASSIVE SHIPMENT OF NARCOTICS WILL BE UNLOADED SOMEWHERE ON LONG ISLAND.
BECAUSE OF CERTAIN PRESSURES THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO BEAR ON MY AGENCY, I HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO DO NOTHING ABOUT THIS.
AND I WON'T-- OFFICIALLY. IN THIS MATTER, I'M ON MY OWN.
JUST AS YOU MUST BE--
--WHEN I ARRANGE TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.
KEEP TALKING.


THE MANHATTAN OFFICE OF GLENN INDUSTRIES...
SIMPLY A REORGANIZATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SEQUENCE TO ALLOW FOR INCREASED EFFICIENCY IN THE SUPERVISION OF DUTIES.
THAT'S ALL.
SOUNDS LIKE MATT WROTE IT.
MATT?
YOU KNOW, MATT MURDOCK. MY ATTORNEY.
SPEAKING OF WHOM, HE MADE ME PROMISE TO SHOW HIM ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE I SIGN IT.
AND, SINCE I JUST HAPPEN TO BE SEEING HIM TONIGHT...
YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU?
CERTAINLY NOT, MY DEAR.
SHALL I CALL YOU TOMORROW ...SAY, AT NOON?
A WAKE UP CALL I DON'T NEED, MR. SPINDLE!
FLAKEY BROAD.
YES, YES... BUT INCREASINGLY TRACTABLE.
...STRICTLY A FORMALITY, MS. GLENN. HARDLY WORTH YOUR TIME.
JUST ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY OUR LEGAL DEPARTMENT TO KEEP ITSELF ON THE BUDGET.
I CAN'T MAKE HEAD NOR TAIL OF THIS. WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
SOON ENOUGH, GLENN INDUSTRIES SHALL BE OURS.

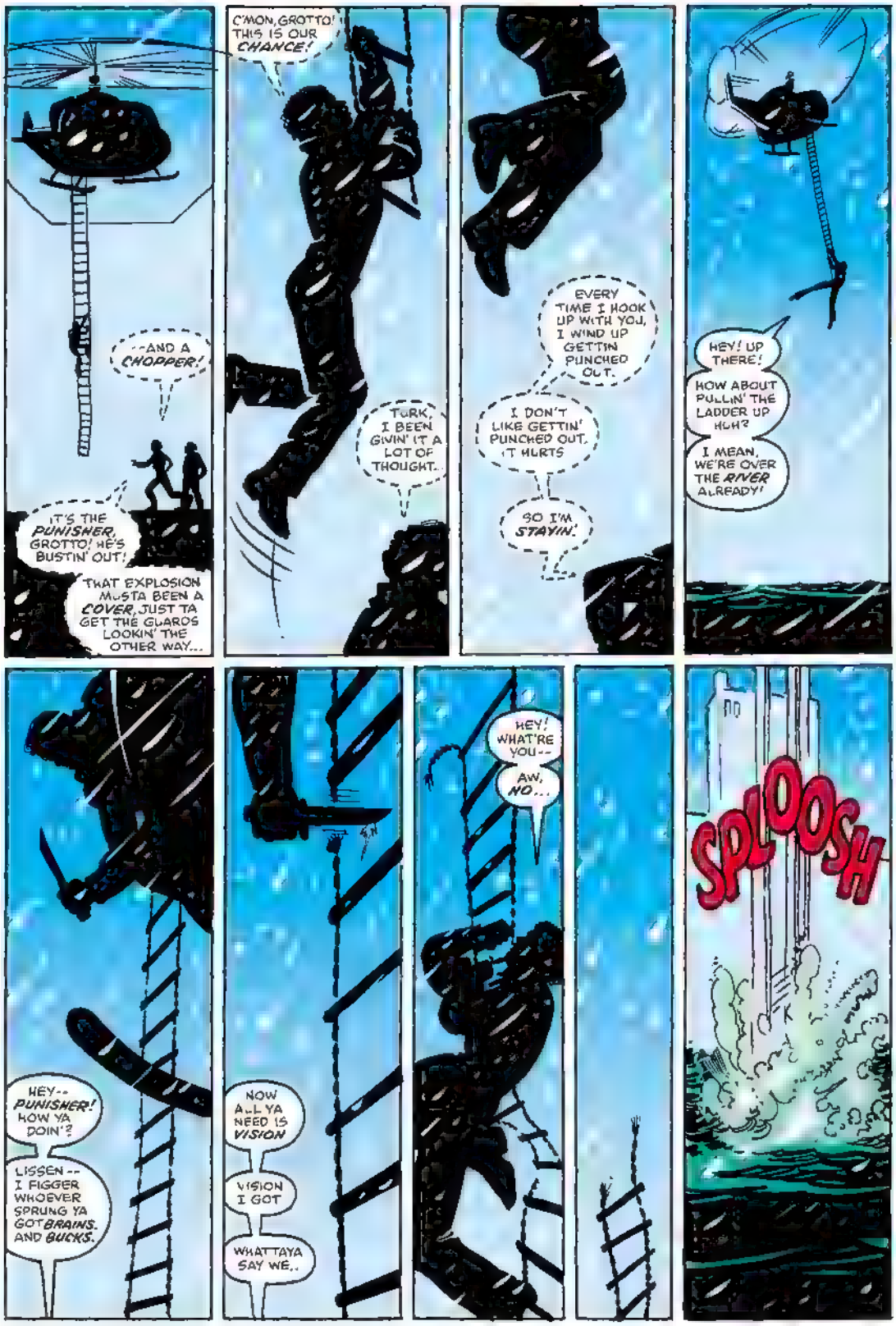
A GRIMY UNDERWORLD SALOON, JUST OFF SOUTH STREET...
KRESSSH
BLAM BLAM
CHAK
CHOK
BLAM
BLAMM
KLIK KLIK KLIK KLIK
OKAY! OKAY! SO I'LL TALK ALREADY!
WORD'S COME DOWN FROM THE TOP -- THE KINGPIN HISSELF. HE'S HOLDIN' SOME KINDA SUMMIT OF THE BIG SIX -- THE TOP MOBSTERS OF THE EAST COAST. TONIGHT. MIDNIGHT.
LEMME DOWN, HUH?


SUMMIT CONFERENCE? NOT WHAT I'D EXPECT--
--BUT IT MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH ELEKTRA. MAYBE THE KINGPIN IS SELLING ELEKTRA'S SERVICES TO ANOTHER CITY.
IT'S EARLY YET. I'VE GOT TIME TO SWITCH BACK TO MATT MURDOCK AND FIND OUT IF THE CORONER'S REPORT HAS ARRIVED AT MY OFFICE...
...LACERATION OF THE THROAT... SHATTERED JAW... HEART PUNCTURED BY...
MATT, DO I HAVE TO GO ON? FOGGY'S ALMOST DUE WITH MRS. VAN DER LEAR.
WHO?
THE CUSTODY CASE. THE BIG MONEY CUSTODY CASE. DON'T YOU REMEMBER?
JUST KEEP READING, BECKY.
ALL WE NEED IS AN ELEMENT OF DOUBT... A HINT THAT ELEKTRA MAY BE ALIVE...
ALIVE?!
MATT, THEY CUT THIS ELEKTRA PERSON OPEN!
SHE COULDN'T BE ALIVE.
PERHAPS THEY HAD THE WRONG BODY.
FOGGY IDENTIFIED HER. THEY CHECKED HER DENTAL RECORDS.
RECORDS CAN BE CHANGED. FOGGY HADN'T SEEN HER IN YEARS.
AND, IF IT WAS THE WRONG BODY...
TAP TAP TAP
AREN'T WE GRISLY?
HEATHER!
MATT, IT'S HEATHER GLENN.

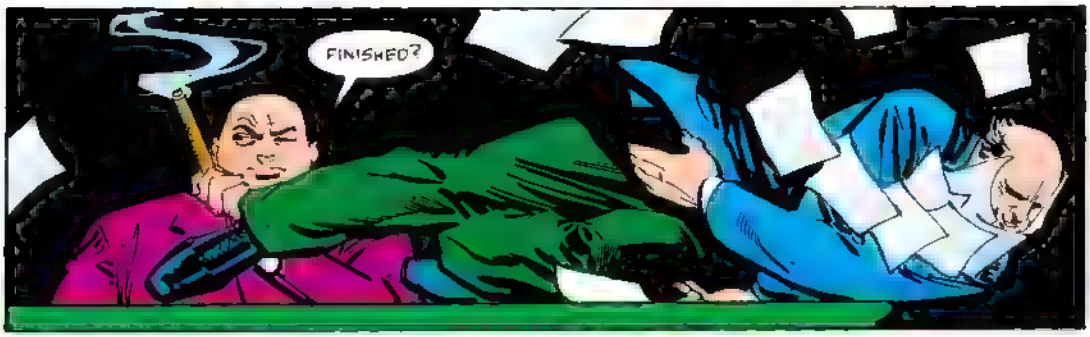

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL H M WHO I AM, BECKY. MATT MAY BE BLIND, BUT HE'S GOT THE BEST EARS IN TOWN.
RECOGNIZE MY VOICE LOVER?
HEATHER? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WE'VE GOT A DATE. REMEMBER?
NO. I FORGOT
CAN'T MAKE IT ANYWAY, I'M BUSY.
MY HAND--!
YOU HURT MY HAND!
MATT WHAT S--
SORRY.
BECKY-- THE REPORT. I NEED TO KNOW THE EXACT CONDITION OF THE CORPSE. PARTICU - LARLY THE LUNGS.
I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT ELEKTRA'S LUNGS WERE FILLED WITH BLOOD. IF THE CORPSE THEY EXAMINED HAD CLEAN LUNGS--
WHO'S "ELEKTRA"?
RIGHT THIS WAY, MRS. VAN DER LEAR.
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO MY PARTNER...
DON'T IGNORE ME, MISTER.
WHO'S "ELEKTRA"?
JUST A SEC HEATHER. WE'LL TALK LATER
BECKY-- ABOUT THAT CORPSE...
WERE THE LUNGS FILLED WITH BLOOD OR WEREN'T THEY, BECKY?
ANSWER ME!
IF YOU'D RATHER SPEND YOUR TIME WITH CORPSES THAN WITH ME--
--WHY DON'T YOU JUST DIG ONE UP, MISTER MURDOCK!
I HOPE THE TWO OF YOU ARE VERY HAPPY!

UM...GUESS WE HAD A LITTLE DOMESTIC UPSET HERE...
HEH HEH...EH...
I WOULDN'T WORRY, THOUGH, MRS. VAN DER LEAR. WOULDN'T WORRY AT ALL
WE STILL PROVIDE THE FINEST LEGAL SERVICES IN THE COUNTRY HERE AT NELSON AND MURDOCK
MRS. VAN DER LEAR?
MATT...
HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?
I DON'T KNOW

RYKER'S ISLAND PENITENTIARY...
YER BUTT, GROTTO. MOVE IT.
THEY'LL BE CHECKIN' OUR CELL ANY MINNIT.
I DUNNO ABOUT THIS, TURK.
LOOKS DANGEROUS.
SHADDUP.
SPENT SIX WEEKS IN SHOP, MAKIN' THESE HERE SUCTION CUPS.
I AIN'T LETTIN' THEM GO TA WASTE
WHOOOM
OOF!
WHAT WAS THAT?
DUNNO. BUT IT'S GOTTA BE TROUBLE.
SOUNDED LIKE AN EXPLOSION.
HARD TA SEE, I INNA DARK.
THAT'S WHY THEY CALL IT DARK GROTTO
AW, JEEZ THERE GOES THE ALARM.
WE BETTER GET BACK TO OUR CELL, BEFORE--
HEY! WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT'S WHAT? HARD TA SEE, INNA D.
A LADDER!
GROTTO, IT'S A LADDER--
AROOGA


...AND A CHOPPER!
IT'S THE PUNISHER, GROTTO! HE'S BUSTIN' OUT!
THAT EXPLOSION MUSTA BEEN A COVER, JUST TA GET THE GUARDS LOOKIN' THE OTHER WAY...
C'MON, GROTTO! THIS IS OUR CHANCE!
TURK, I BEEN GIVIN' IT A LOT OF THOUGHT..
EVERY TIME I HOOK UP WITH YOU, I WIND UP GETTIN PUNCHED OUT.
I DON'T LIKE GETTIN' PUNCHED OUT, IT HURTS
SO I'M STAYIN'.
HEY! UP THERE!
HOW ABOUT PULLIN' THE LADDER UP HUH?
I MEAN, WE'RE OVER THE RIVER ALREADY!
HEY-- PUNISHER! HOW YA DOIN'?
LISSEN -- I FIGGER WHOEVER SPRUNG YA GOT BRAINS AND BUCKS.
NOW ALL YA NEED IS VISION
VISION I GOT
WHATTAYA SAY WE..
HEY! WHAT'RE YOU--
AW, NO...
SPLOOSH

MEANWHILE .
KLUD
THWAKK
WHOK
KLGGG


FINISHED?

GOOD.
NOW THAT WE HAVE DISPENSED WITH THE FORMALITIES--
--PERHAPS YOU SHOULD TELL ME WHAT IT IS THAT YOU WANT.

SHE SERVED YOU AS YOUR CHIEF ASSASSIN -- HELPED YOU MAINTAIN YOUR CONTROL OVER THE MOBS.
AND NOW-- YOU'RE HELPING HER HIDE FROM ME.
HIS HEARTBEAT-- IT JUMPED JUST THEN. BUT IS THAT BECAUSE HE'S AFRAID--

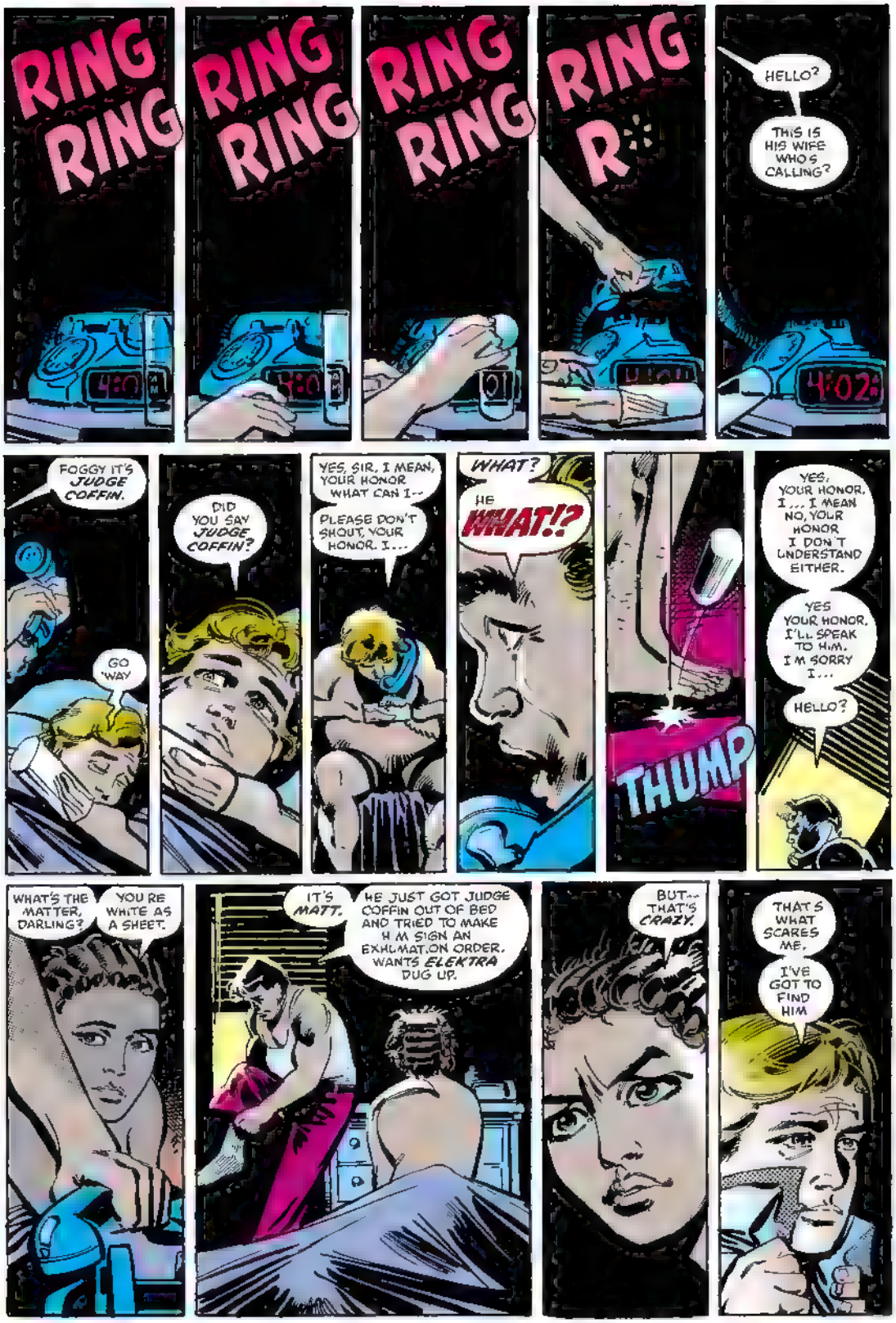
--OR SIMPLY ASTONISHED?
DAREDEVIL--
ARE YOU ILL?

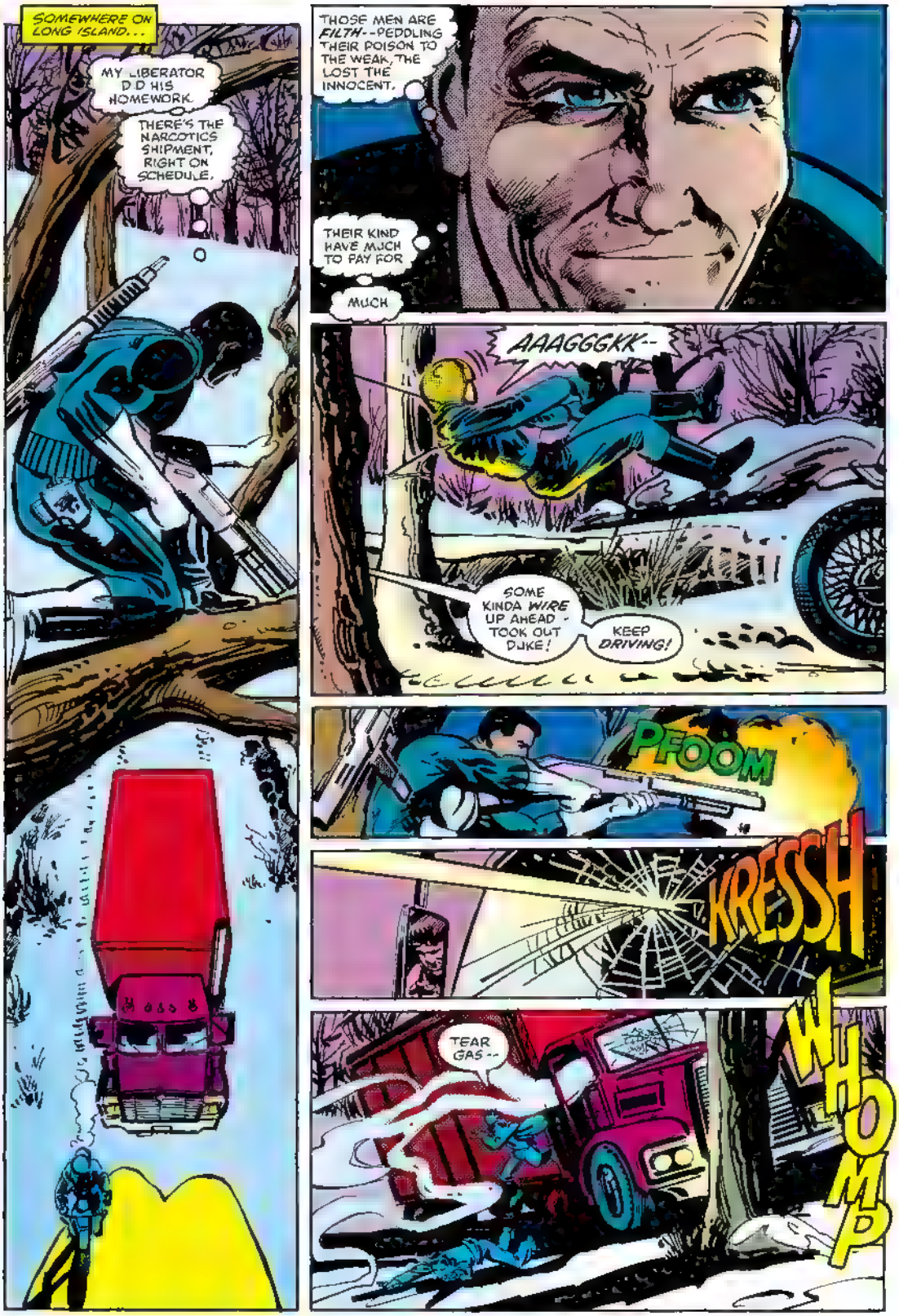
I WANT ELEKTRA, KINGPIN

I AM FINE. NOW, DO YOU TELL ME THE TRUTH--
--BEFORE, OR AFTER I BEAT YOU SENSELESS?

AH! NOW I UNDERSTAND. THIS IS SOME ELABORATE JOKE, IS IT NOT?
THE DAREDEVIL I KNOW WOULD NEVER RESORT TO UNPROVOKED VIOLENCE, SIMPLY TO TEST A THEORY.
WOULD HE?

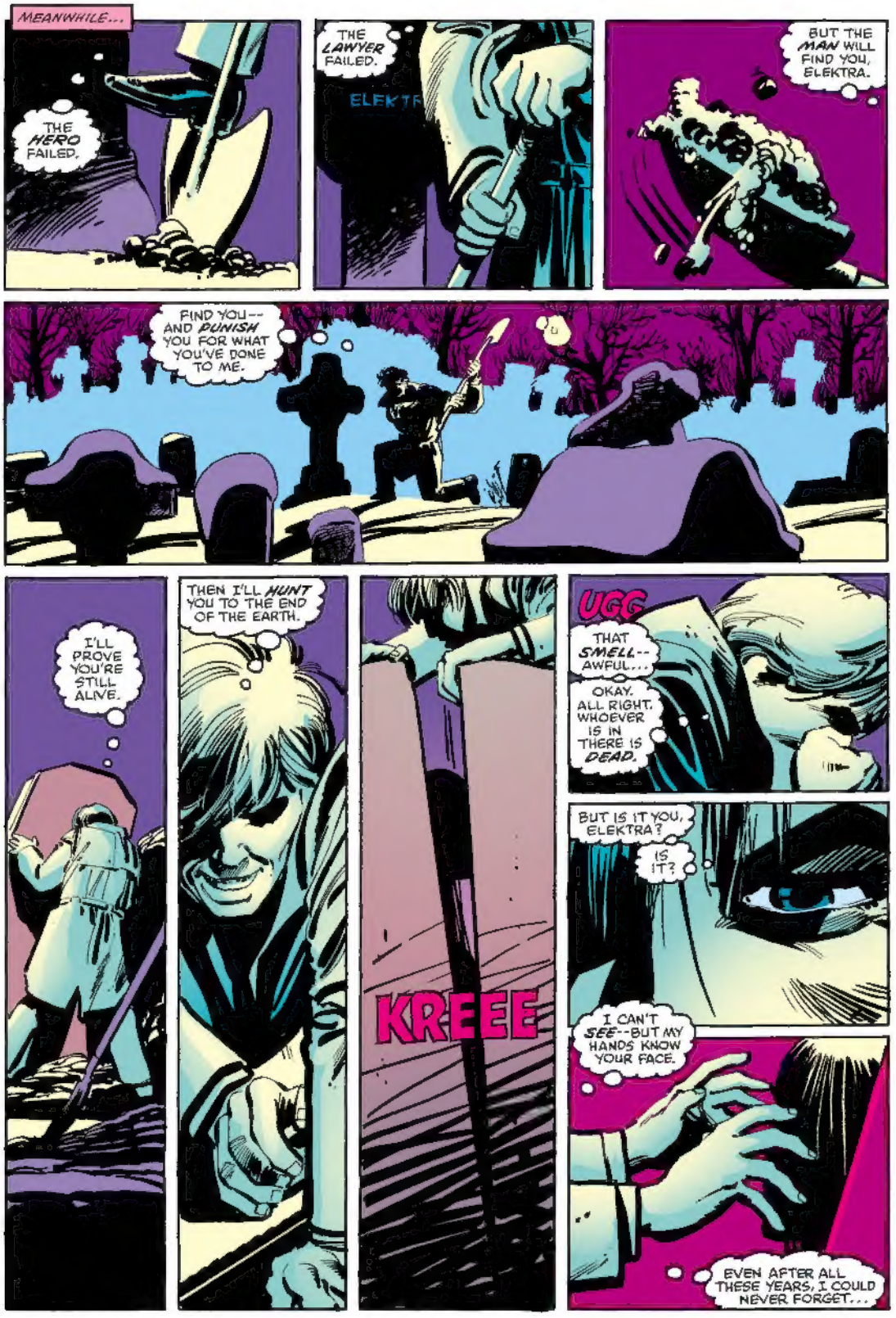
COME IN, GENTLEMEN. DAREDEVIL IS GONE
DOES-- DOES HE KNOW?
HE KNOWS NOTHING. WE ARE FREE TO ACT
THE NARCOTICS DELIVERY SHALL PROCEED AS SCHEDULED, WHILE THE ONE MAN I FEARED MIGHT PROVE AN OBSTACLE--
--IS OFF CHASING PHANTOMS.


RING RING
RING RING
RING RING
RING R
HELLO?
THIS IS HIS WIFE WHO'S CALLING?
4:02
FOGGY IT'S JUDGE COFFIN.
GO 'WAY
DID YOU SAY JUDGE COFFIN?
YES, SIR, I MEAN, YOUR HONOR WHAT CAN I--
PLEASE DON'T SHOUT, YOUR HONOR. I...
WHAT?
HE WHAT!?
THUMP
YES, YOUR HONOR, I... I MEAN NO, YOUR HONOR I DON'T UNDERSTAND EITHER.
YES YOUR HONOR, I'LL SPEAK TO HIM. I'M SORRY I...
HELLO?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DARLING?
YOU'RE WHITE AS A SHEET.
IT'S MATT.
HE JUST GOT JUDGE COFFIN OUT OF BED AND TRIED TO MAKE H M SIGN AN EXHUMATION ORDER. WANTS ELEKTRA DUG UP.
BUT-- THAT'S CRAZY.
THAT'S WHAT SCARES ME.
I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM


SOMEWHERE ON LONG ISLAND...
MY LIBERATOR D.D HIS HOMEWORK.
THERE'S THE NARCOTICS SHIPMENT, RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.
THOSE MEN ARE FILTH--PEDDLING THEIR POISON TO THE WEAK, THE LOST THE INNOCENT.
THEIR KIND HAVE MUCH TO PAY FOR
MUCH
AAAGGGKK--
SOME KINDA WIRE UP AHEAD - TOOK OUT DUKE!
KEEP DRIVING!
PFOOM
KRESSH
TEAR GAS --
WHOMP

KCHOW
KCHOW
CHOW
KCHOW
CHOW
CHOW
PLEASE-- I GIVE UP...
THIS IS WAR.
I DON'T TAKE PRISONERS.
KCHOWW

UH... NICE WORK.
SOMETHING WRONG?
THE LAST ONE I SHOT...
A CHILD. JUST A CHILD.
YEAH. TOO BAD.
LOOK, PUNISHER, I DON'T KNOW QUITE HOW TO SAY THIS --
--BUT THE DIRECTOR WOULD HAVE MY HEAD IF I LET YOU GET AWAY.
YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOUUURKH
THWOK
UNCONSCIOUS. GOOD.
I COULDN'T LET HIM TAKE ME BACK TO PRISON.
NOT NOW.
THE ENEMY ENLISTS CHILDREN.
THE WAR HAS GOTTEN DIRTIER.
I'M NEEDED MORE THAN EVER.


MEANWHILE...
THE HERO FAILED.
THE LAWYER FAILED.
ELEKTR
BUT THE MAN WILL FIND YOU, ELEKTRA.
FIND YOU-- AND PUNISH YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO ME.
I'LL PROVE YOU'RE STILL ALIVE.
THEN I'LL HUNT YOU TO THE END OF THE EARTH.
KREEE
UGG
THAT SMELL-- AWFUL...
OKAY. ALL RIGHT. WHOEVER IS IN THERE IS DEAD.
BUT IS IT YOU, ELEKTRA?
IS IT?
I CAN'T SEE--BUT MY HANDS KNOW YOUR FACE.
EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, I COULD NEVER FORGET...

NEXT ISSUE: CHILD'S PLAY